

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: LIMITATION OF COMMITTEES WITHIN NATO

ASYG HUMPHREYS (DEFENSE PLANNING AND POLICY) HAS CIRCULATED DRC/
N(75)14, QUOTED BELOW, WHICH RECOMMENDS DISSOLUTION OF SEVERAL SUB-
GROUPS IN FIELD OF FORCE PLANNING SUBJECT TO DISCUSSION BY
DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) DURING WEEK OF JUNE 9. WE FIND
HUMPHREYS' PROPOSALS GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE, PARTICULARLY IN
LIGHT OF HIS SUGGESTIONS THAT DRC ABSORB ANY FUTURE WORK IN
SUB-GROUP AREAS OF INTEREST. WE RECOMMEND THAT US SUPPORT THESE
PROPOSALS DURING FORTHCOMING DRC MEETING. ACTION REQUESTED:
WASHINGTON VIEWS BY JUNE 9.

BEGIN TEXT:

LIMITATION OF COMMITTEES WITHIN NATO

NOTE BY THE CHAIRMAN

DELEGATIONS WILL HAVE SEEN THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S
INTERIM REPORT ON THE LIMITATION OF COMMITTEES WITHIN NATO(1)
IN WHICH HE REFERS TO THE POSSIBLE DISSOLUTION OF CERTAIN OF
THE SUB-GROUPS ESTABLISHED IN THE FIELD OF FORCE PLANNING. THE
GROUPS REFERRED TO ARE LISTED BELOW TOGETHER WITH MY RECOMMENDATIONS
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FOR THEIR FUTURE:-

(A) OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON DEFENCE PLANNING DATA
REQUIREMENTS AND REPORTING PROCEDURES AND METHODS-

DRC(DRWG):

THIS GROUP IS DORMANT AT PRESENT, ALTHOUGH SOONER OR LATER THERE MAY BE A NEED FOR A GENERAL REVIEW OF DPQ REQUIREMENTS. THE EXISTING GROUP COULD BE DISSOLVED ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT WORK WOULD BE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE.

(B) SUB-GROUP ON MOBILISATION AND FORCE EXPANSION PLANS AND POTENTIAL:

DORMANT. WORK COULD BE HANDLED AD HOC BY DRC IF NEED BE.

(C) STANDING SUB-GROUP ON WAR RESERVE STOCKS-DRC(WR):

SHOULD HAVE COMPLETED ITS WORK BY THIS AUTUMN AND CAN THEN BE DISSOLVED.

(D) STEERING GROUP OF RELATIVE FORCE CAPABILITIES OF NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT-RFC(SC);

(E) WORKING GROUP ON RELATIVE FORCE CAPABILITIES OF NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT-RFC(WG):

(F) AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR TACTICAL PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE -AC/278:

ALL THREE ARE DORMANT AND COULD BE DISSOLVED NOW.

(1) PO/75/60, DATED 14TH MAY, 1975

(G) STUDY GROUP ON FINANCIAL PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE STATIONING OF FORCES ON THE TERRITORY OF OTHER NATO COUNTRIES-AC/291:

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(H) HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE STATIONING OF UNITED STATES FORCES IN EUROPE-AC/293:

BOTH HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THEIR CURRENT TASKS. IF PROBLEMS ARISE IN FUTURE, THEY CAN BE HANDLED BY THE DRC.

(I) AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON DATA REQUIREMENTS FOR A FUNCTIONAL AND REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF DEFENSE EXPENDITURES-AC/281(DR):

IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT THIS GROUP SHOULD BE FORMALLY ABOLISHED, THOUGH WORK ON THE SUBJECT WILL CONTINUE

BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND DELEGATIONS.

(J) SUB-GROUP ON WAYS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING THE AD 70
MEASURES FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF GREEK AND TURKISH
LOCAL FORCES-AC/281(LF):

THIS GROUP HAS BEEN DORMANT SINCE MID-1974. ITS RESIDUAL
TASKS HAVE NOW BEEN ASSUMED ELSEWHERE. IT MIGHT, HOWEVER,
BE PREMATURE FORMALLY TO ABOLISH IT NOW.

2. THIS WOULD LEAVE THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:

(A) EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP ON THE STUDY OF THE ALLIANCE
DEFENCE PROBLEMS FOR THE 1970S -AC/281:

(B) DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

(C) COMMITTEE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM-
AC/290:

(D) STUDY GROUP ON THE USE OF WARNING TIME-AC/295:

3. I PROPOSE TO PLACE THIS DOCUMENT ON THE AGENDA OF THE
DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION IN THE SECOND WEEK OF
JUNE.

END TEXT. UNQUOTE
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